

If thou would'st read a lesson that will keep Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep, Go to the woods and hills.—Longfellow.

Marlinton, Pocahontas Co., West Virginia, June 8, 1905.

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Calls by 'phone and mail promptly answered.

Timber Lands and Farms.
We have inquiries for good timber lands and for farms. Parties having either for sale we will handle them on a reasonable commission and deal with you honestly.
C. A. YEAGER & Co.,
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Announcement.
We desire to announce to the public generally that we are in better position now than ever to sell your farms or timber. Call and see us in The First National Bank Building, Marlinton, W. Va. TRESSEL & Co.

JOSEPHUS,
THOROUGHBRED PERCHERON, FALMACEUS STALLION
Will make the Season of 1905 in the same territory traveled by me the past three years. He is a young, finely built animal. Insurance \$6.00.
R. F. WILLIAMS,
Mill Gap, Va.

TO THE MOUNTAINS.

BY ORRICK BAYLOR METCALF.
I'm sick of heart, I'm sad today,
This city life is not my way.
Where man meets man they harbor strife;
Give back my boyhood mountain life.

Oh! mother land where I was born—
Where I was free from strife and scorn!
Oh! mother mine of jagged arms!
Take back your child from human harms.

UNWRITTEN WAR HISTORY.

Major John Alderson, formerly of West Virginia, but now of Wall Street, some time an officer in the Confederate Army, told me a most remarkable story at the New Willard today relating to President Lincoln and his attitude after the war towards the States which had seceded from the Union.

"In April, 1865, just after the end of the war," said Major Alderson, "I was sitting on the porch of the residence of Lieutenant Governor Price in Lewisburg, in Greenbrier County. I had just gotten home from the army, and you may well believe I was enjoying the rest and the company of the prettiest girl in the world, Governor Price's daughter, who was on the porch with me."

"While we were talking," Major Alderson continued, "a soldier suddenly galloped into sight and drew rein at the door. He asked if that was Governor Price's house and upon my telling him that it was, he said he brought a letter for Governor Price from the President of the United States. He had evidently ridden hard, for he looked fatigued and his horse was covered with foam."

"I told him that the Governor was down on his farm, two or three miles away, and that as he seemed tired and broken down I would deliver the letter. The officer hesitated, but upon the young lady's assuring him that I was as one of the family and that it would be all right, he gave me the letter, which was in a large official envelope. The officer went into the house to rest and to get something to eat. I got on a horse and hurried to the farm to see Governor Price."

"I found the old fellow in the barn fanning wheat." Major Alderson went on, with a reminiscent smile. "They had buried two or three sacks of grain to keep it from falling into the hands of the northern troops, and now they had resurrected it and were cleaning it to have some bread. A negro was turning the wheat fan, and another was scraping away the cleaned wheat. Governor Price was standing by the hopper working the grain through to the riddles."

"I jumped off my horse and hurried into the barn."
"Governor," I said in some excitement, "here is letter for you from the President of the United States."

"The old fellow turned as white as a sheet. You see we did not know at that time just what course the United States Government would pursue towards the men who had fought in the Confederate Army or held office under the Confederate Government. The old fellow broke the seal and took out a large document, portentous looking indeed. He read hurriedly and then laughed."

"It's all right," he said, and he handed me the letter. It was addressed to Lieutenant Governor Price, and signed by Abraham Lincoln. It requested him to call the Virginia Legislature together at once to take action regarding the changed condition of affairs in the State. In conclusion were these words, which I shall always remember: 'I want you people to come back and hang up your hats on the same old pegs.'"

"But on the very night that letter was received, I think," said Major Alderson, "the President was assassinated, and his plans for the government of the States"

YOU FOU.

Major Alderson said that the letter was addressed to the Lieutenant Governor for the reason that Governor Smith had fled from Richmond at the evacuation of that city, and President Lincoln did not know where he was.

Major Alderson's wife, a daughter of Governor Price, was a witness of the conference between a representative of Mr. Lincoln and a committee from the secession convention. A delegation from the convention, elderly men who had fought in the Virginia in the

Union, had corresponded with Mr. Lincoln on the subject, and probably came to Washington to see him. Mr. Lincoln was informed that if he would pledge himself not to call on Virginia to coerce the States which had seceded from the State would not leave the Union.

"Mr. Lincoln sent his representative to Richmond on the 13th of April, 1861," said Major Alderson. "A large number of men opposed to the State's leaving the Union met him that night in one of the parlors at the Exchange Hotel. The meeting was private, but my wife, who was then a young girl, in Richmond with her father and a female companion of about her own age, sat behind the portieres at one end of the room, and heard and saw all that was said and done."

"General Powell, I think, was Mr. Lincoln's representative. He was introduced to the gentlemen present, chiefly the members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the convention. The object of the conference was stated, and then General Powell, addressing the conference, showed the members that he had authority from Mr. Lincoln to promise that if Virginia would not secede from the Union she would never be asked to aid in coercing the States which had done so."

"When General Powell made this announcement the effect was electrical, my wife says," said Major Alderson. "She has often told me how those old men, who loved the Union better than any other class in the country loved it, danced about the room like boys, embracing each other, and laughing and weeping by turns."

"General Powell returned to Washington the next day," Major Alderson continued, "and at once went to the White House and told Mr. Lincoln what he had done. That afternoon Mr. Lincoln told Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War Stanton sent for Mr. Seward, Secretary of State, and the two remained with the President until after midnight. The world knows how the next day Mr. Lincoln issued his call for seventy-five thousand troops, and how the next day Virginia seceded from the Union. It was chiefly Stanton who made the President violate his pledge and plunge the country into four years of war."

Major Alderson says he feels sure that neither of the foregoing stories have ever been published. To me they were of the deepest interest as evidencing the love of Virginia for the Union, and the state of mind on the part of Mr. Lincoln towards the old State, both before and after the war.

Bank of Durbin.
The Bank of Durbin organized by electing Judge John Hoffman president, T. D. Burns, vice president, and W. G. Wilson, secretary. Up to last Thursday the site of the bank had not been fully determined, but it will be located near the depot. It looks now as though there will be two banks at Durbin in the near future, as some parties are considering the advisability of also locating there in the banking business.

NOTICE
I have a thoroughbred Hereford bull which I will breed to a limited number of cows. Price five dollars in advance. G. M. Kess,
Sw Marlinton, W. Va.

The West Virginia News looks very neat in its new dress of brand new type.

FALLING BACK.

From Shenandoah Mountain by the Northwest Brigade.

The last ten or fifteen days that General Milroy occupied at McDowell, Highland County, April 1862, are remembered as among the most gloomy of war times for the older people of East Highland and the contiguous sections of West Augusta. On the Sabbath days intervening ministers of the gospel, whose charges were in the country places, were seen slowly riding and, in some instances, walking over muddy roads to their appointments and would find but few in attendance. At such times few if any but God's confidential people would be present and these were led in devotional services in order to call upon their father in the Heavens to verify to them in their trouble the promise where ever two or three were met together in His name, He would be in the midst of them. All seemed apprehensive that ere another Sabbath, their churches endeared to them by associations of the most hallowed character might be desecrated by the presence of a reckless soldiery reported to be in the habit of taking possession of churches in the name of human liberty and using them as resorts for smoking, drinking, gaming, profanity and ribald pleasantries. Throughout the widely extended region just mentioned the hearts of the vast proportion of the residents failed them for fear, and hence panics and perplexities seemed to have deprived so many of their self-possession, and gloomy forebodings overlaid them. Business was suspended, household goods and supplies concealed or removed to a distance with much loss.

AN (this trouble among the citizens was much aggravated by what was reported as going on in the Shenandoah Camp. Government stores were being removed in evident haste, and what might be left was destroyed. The sick and wounded were hurried away to places east of the Blue Ridge, which resulted in much suffering and even death in some instances. Now the strange thing about all this was the fact that the movement of the troops fortified on the Shenandoah were equally surprising and unexpected to both Federal and Confederate authorities. It would be hard to decide which of the parties confronting each other were the more surprised by the evacuation of this mountain strong hold. I have been assured by parties within the Union lines at the time that everything was in readiness to withdraw to Pendleton.

For reasons, however, that hardly explain, before giving the order to break up camp he sent a large detachment to reconnoiter the Confederate position. And when it returned and reported the position abandoned, he called for reinforcements with a view of proceeding at once to Staunton. Such a state of affairs being so mutually surprising, prompted to much discussion as to how it all came about. It was explained to me in this manner soon after the occurrence by a person that I believed was in a position to know whereof he was speaking:

General Edward Johnson was requested to report to General Stonewall Jackson, near Harrisonburg, for consultation. In the meantime the command devolved upon the senior Colonel, whose name will not be repeated here as I am not sure who it was. This officer then in command had access to the original order issued from the Richmond War Department, requiring the Army of the Northwest to evacuate Camp Alphegany, move in the direction of Staunton, and if practicable make a stand upon Shenandoah Mountain. As construed by the Colonel in question it was presumed that this order left the occupancy of the mountain discretionary with whomsoever might be in command of the Northwest Brigade, on the move for Staunton. When General Bank's division threatened

the Confederate forces below Harrisonburg, and General Jackson had retired to Swift Run Gap, a Quartermaster in the Confederate service became much alarmed by the rumors coming up the Valley, threatening the immediate occupation of Staunton by the Federals in overwhelming numbers. It was evidently believed by him and others that the Union forces were amply sufficient, under Generals Banks and Shields, to force General Jackson across the Blue Ridge, occupy Staunton, intercept and capture General Edward Johnson and his command; thus at a blow control the Valley of Virginia for good and all.

The quartermaster prepared a despatch and sent it by courier to Camp Shenandoah, communicating to the officer in command the alarming news. The despatch designated the hour when the Unionists might be expected at Staunton. It was also suggested that if the Shenandoah troops could reach Buffalo Gap by a given hour it would be possible for them to escape by way of Staunton and Waynesboro, and form a junction with the Valley forces at or near Charlottesville. But if the Brigade should not reach Buffalo Gap until after the hour specified, the only hope of retreat was by way of Lexington and through to Lynchburg.

In exercise of the discretionary authority presumed to be granted him by the original order, the Colonel commanding at once issued the order for falling back with all possible expedition, and a scene followed that beggars description. The troops were in a good shape for a panic in virtue of the rumors they believed that they were threatened from front and rear by overwhelming odds, and the inopportune arrival of semi-official courier together with the giving of an preemptory order to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice produced a state of excitement verging upon reckless phrensy.

Tents were burned, commissary and quartermaster stores destroyed in profusion, and much private property thrown away. In the confusion that ensued some of the homesick, disheartened militia returned to their homes with very alarming reports that were circulated far and near until the Unionists at McDowell and Monterey came to hear of it, and that prompted General Milroy to send out and see how things were before retiring to Franklin.

The Confederate line of march was forced late in the dark, rainy evening. The April mud very deep and in places well nigh impassable for teams too heavily freighted in the battle and confusion of the preparation. Occasionally a wagon would be overturned by some careless or sleepy driver, the horses would be cut loose, the wagon rolled out of the road, and the train moved on through the darkness so dense that one could scarcely perceive his hand. After such marching for weary miles the morning dawned, and not long thereafter a courier from Stonewall's headquarters came with a preemptory order to halt, which was obeyed at Valley Mills, not far from Buffalo Gap. It is scarcely possible to realize the suffering of these ten month Confederate veterans, to say nothing of the fresh recruits of a few weeks service in camp duty. The rain fell in torrents, the wind was piercingly cold, blankets and clothing thoroughly drenched, the tents thrown pell-mell into the wagons were hard to disentangle and get out. Many of the tents, however, had been burned or lost on the way. This left part of the troops with no shelter, except such as they could extemporize with boards, fence-rails and cedar boughs, or find in stables, sheds, vacant cellars or empty houses. For successive days and nights many of the Confederates failed to get any refreshing sleep, and but little food which they could eat with relish. The effect of all this was in the highest degree encouraging to the Unionists in and out of the army,

YOU FOU.

She is rather below the medium height, and her gait is the easy gliding movement of a clubfooted Guinea pig. She has a mouth like a whippoorwill, and when she laughed at some little bon mot, such as I am always getting off, her upper lip was thrown back over her head, till it caught on a large celestial hair pin, and her attendant had to go up there with a monkey wrench and unfasten it. It was the most heavenly smile I ever saw. I had so much depth and soul to it. I felt flattered if my remarks attracted her. The Chinese, as a nation, cannot grapple with our American style of joke. They are not quite strong enough.

You Fou was held here on a telegram from Denver, until Monday, when she was released on habeas corpus. I went up to see how the writ would work on a China woman. At first it didn't seem to catch on, but after awhile it began to work on her all right, and eventually turned her loose. But I wouldn't be a habeas corpus for two dollars per day and board.

After being released on the writ, there being no warrant at that time, counsel told Ah Say, who had You Fou in charge, that the best thing for him to do would be to light out with great vehemence for some foreign strand, as the Denver officer would be here on Monday evening with the required documents to take You Fou back to Denver. She was therefore taken to the palatial residence of Hong Lee, on Second, near A Street, where she was rigged up in man's attire; but Sheriff Boswell stopped in, and through the jazy disguise he discovered You Fou.

Hearstested her. She was bathed in tears. It was the first bath she ever had. He took her and held her, figuratively speaking, until another telegram announced that the requisition of the Governor was countermanded, and You Fou lit out for her destination.

I shall write a little novelette next summer with this tale as a foundation, and it will be a good thing. I am having the cuts made now at a shoemaker shop here in town.—BILL NYE.

The Assessor.

J. H. Buzzard, county assessor, is making good speed with his work of assessing and has finished the county above Marlinton. He is now working in the territory from Marlinton down, and has probably a third of the county to assess yet. He has collected over two thousand capitation tax tickets and has failed to get the dollar from very few persons. He has levied in some instances on the property of the reluctant voter, which had the effect of bringing forth the dollar. He has had some trouble with the names of such Italians as are liable to the tax and under the instructions of the tax commissioner he lists them by number where the name is impossible and collects the tax at the company's office.

He has by far the largest and hardest assessment district in the State and he is looking as lean and run down as a race horse.

The letting of two mail routes is posted in the postoffice. One of seven miles, from Marlinton to Onoto, by way of Edray, to E. E. L. Doyle, for three hundred and forty-six dollars per annum; daily except Sunday. The other is from Marlinton to Huntersville, six miles, six times a week, to J. H. Buzzard, for three hundred dollars per annum.

Colonel D. O'Connell was in town last Saturday. He is the only Russian sympathizer in this part of the country. His theory of the battle is that the treacherous Japanese manouvered their fleet pretending to fly until the Russian fleet sailed over the area where mines were laid, and were blown out of the water.

Mason Mathews of Lewisburg spent Sunday in town with Hubert Echols.

but very depressing to

of the Southern Co. General Milroy and inferred from all they contain that the Confederate authorities were beginning to realize that their cause was about lost since they had thus retired panic stricken from one of the strongest positions in the mountains, and in some respects one of the most important for retaining the allegiance of Northwest Virginia.

Southern sympathizers were made to feel the difference it made in the treatment they received from that on by the foraging parties that were searching every nook and corner for commissary supplies. Their insolence to women, old men and children, to say the least, was distressingly hard to endure.

One instance out of many may be related, illustrative of the state of affairs in out of the way homes. One night as many as thirty foragers came to the home of a mountaineer whose secession sympathies were well known.

The unionists were very jovial and hopeful of an early peace, and after a cheerful supper, spread their blankets on the floor and fell asleep. No one was appointed to keep guard, and when the mountaineer saw them sleeping so soundly and thought upon their business to pillage, burn and kill, his temper got the better of him. He slipped out where his two axes were hid away and brought them into the cabin, fully resolved to chop off as many heads as he could.

With tears and entreaties the woman of the house made him take his axes away and let the foragers alone. So it would seem that some of these people owed their lives to the tenderness of a woman, that made her forgive the errand on which they came to her home, and also forget that possibly some of these very persons might yet meet her absent sons in the thick of battle, and her tears flow at the tidings one or both had fallen at their hands.

Ill-Timed Admiration.

On the closing day of the recent session of the New York Legislature the desks of the chosen representatives of the people were unusual gay with flowers being used in its legal sense, as including corporations. The wife of a certain Brooklyn Assemblyman, who had accompanied her illustrious spouse into the chamber, was much impressed with the fine display, and, catching sight of a flora piece on her husband's desk, exclaimed:

"Oh, look; there are flowers on your desk, too. I wonder who sent them?"

"Some of my—ahem—constituents, no doubt," he replied, inserting his right thumb into the armhole of his vest with an easy and graceful gesture.

"I'm curious to see the card," he said, and, suiting the action to the word, she read the following inscription:

"With sincerest regards, from Birdie."

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Mathews of Cass were visiting Hubert Echols last Sunday.

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and son left

Yesterday for Pocahontas County to visit relatives. Fred Wallace, Esq., has been absent at his old home in Pocahontas County for ten days or more.

Daniel Reiter, of White Sulphur District, has bought five hundred, fourteen and a half acres of land of Harrison Brewster. This land is situated in Renick's Valley, being a part of the Harlow farm, and which Mr. Brewster recently purchased of H. L. Van Sicker; price paid, seven thousand two hundred dollars and fifty cents.

The Governor has appointed J. W. Eary, of Fayetteville, to succeed the late J. R. Koozts as Judge of the Criminal Court of Fayette County. He is a graduate from the law school of our State University.

A. B. C. Bray, for years the efficient and popular depot and express agent at Ronceverte, has resigned those positions to accept the cashiership of the First National Bank of that place. Henry M. Worsham will have charge of the depot for the time being, with A. M. McCormick and R. C. Bruce at the freight.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad will make a rate of one fare plus twenty-five cents for the round trip on the card order plan. An excursion to Natural Bridge, Virginia, at one dollar and fifty cents for the round trip, is on the Association's program for June 30th. Harry C. Humphreys, Principal of the Lewisburg graded school, will deliver the address of welcome.

E. M. Arbogast is making extensive improvements in his property at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Court Street.

A good many sportsmen have been fishing at Cheat Club this season. Most of the visitors come by way of the Durbin depot, where they are met by the hack belonging to the club.

For Sale.

We will sell our stock of General Merchandise and in connection with this I am postmaster, railroad and express agent, which I will resign and recommend our successor. Will rent building or sell, to suit. This business is centrally located with a good trade and no opposition. A bargain; don't wait until some one else gets it.
J. W. BEARD & BROTHER,
Beard, W. Va.
By J. W. BEARD. 4w

New Goods.

We are now daily receiving our Spring and Summer Stock of Watches, Jewelry Etc., and invite you to call and see our stock. The latest in WAIST SETS, BELT BUCKLES, CHATELAIN FOLDS, ETC., Also a nice Line of CUT GLASS. Greenbrier Jewelry Co.